
CIVIL DEFENSE

The early and mid-1960's were years of continuing crises in world affairs. Berlin, Cuba, and Southeast Asia were confrontation points between East and West. With a potential enemy capable of launching nuclear attacks on the North American continent, survival of the nation's civilian population was of utmost concern to those responsible for public policy. A nationwide program of Civil Defense was stepped up with the responsibility for planning and implementation largely in the hands of state and local officials.

In Maryland, steps were taken to improve the State's Civil Defense capabilities. Governor Tawes enlisted the aid of business and industrial leaders at the first Governor's Seminar for Civil Defense in Industry. Expanded training facilities for Civil Defense personnel were provided at the University of Maryland, and a State Emergency Resources Planning Committee was created and given the task of outlining procedures for keeping the State's economy functioning in the event of nuclear attack. An ardent supporter of the Civil Defense Program, the Governor was outspoken in his criticism of those who attacked it as an unnecessary or useless activity.

ADDRESS, GOVERNOR'S SEMINAR FOR CIVIL DEFENSE IN INDUSTRY

BALTIMORE

April 10, 1963

General Van Brunt, Mayor Goodman, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen:

First let me say that I sincerely appreciate your attendance here today. This fine gathering of representatives of Maryland's banks, commerce and industry and of federal, state and local government officials demonstrates a realization of the great problems which confront us. It also illustrates the close cooperation which exists in our State between industry, commerce, the banks and government.

I do not need to remind you that we are living in perilous times. Not since the War of 1812 have the citizens of this State been faced